



# The BLUE WAVE

Volume IV • Number Two • FALL 2008

*For the Cincinnati Police Department officers, civilian employees, retirees and their respective families.*

Praise goes to the Special Events Unit for their on-going and outstanding work. Whether it is a small street party, a Bengals or Reds game, or a major conference, this seven-person unit is ready to juggle a myriad of details to keep people safe and traffic flowing. Five of their team took a few moments out from a busy day's work with the National Baptist Convention to pose for our Fall masthead photo. They are: (left to right) Clerk-Typist 3 Kelly Cobb, Sergeant Greg Lewton, Lieutenant Anthony Carter, Sergeant Tim Fritz and Clerk-Typist 3 Suzanne Brookins.

*Photo by Rick Adams*

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## AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION HELPS CATCH CRIMINALS ON THE MOVE



*Officer Josh Phillips demonstrates running a wild card scan on a partial plate number. The system pulls up all license plates that CPD's ALPR system has scanned, showing the full plate number and a photo of the car made at the time the plate was read.*

The Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) now has Automatic License Plate Recognition systems (ALPR) installed in seven vehicles and the results have everyone – except criminals – happy.

“I can probably remember 10 or 15 plates off the top of my head each day,” said Captain Jeff Butler. “After that, it starts getting confusing. Nationally there are literally thousands of plates associated with some type of crime and these people are on the move, but we don’t always know where to.”

The ALPR system reads a license plate, runs the number through CPD’s computers, and feeds back information in 1.5 seconds. It lets the officer know if the vehicle, or a person associated with that vehicle, is wanted for some reason enabling the officer to take appropriate action.

The Department’s Information Technology Section (ITS) staff started looking at the systems in mid-2007. That September PIPS Technology in Knoxville loaned the CPD a model to try free of charge for 30 days. Overwhelmingly pleased with the results, CPD purchased seven units in April. “Each unit costs \$25,000 so it is a serious investment. We hope to have around 14 or 15 before long,” said Butler. Currently District 1 and 5 each have two units and the other districts have one each. However, units are moved around and shared as needed.

Each car carrying ALPR has three camera units on its roof. A unit consists of two cameras: a regular camera and an Infrared camera that can read plates at night or in rain or snow. A pair on the driver’s side goes out 38-feet to read the front plates of on-coming cars. A unit on the passenger side goes out 28-feet reading the plates of cars being passed and the final pair, also on the passenger side and set at right angles, reads 8-feet out the cars being passed in a parking lot.

The plate number captured is compared with data bases CPD has installed. Those are the National Crime Information Center data, Law Enforcement Automated Data System run by the Ohio State Patrol, and the Regional Crime Information Center data.

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## FROM THE DESK OF . . .

Colonel Thomas H. Streicher, Jr., Cincinnati Police Chief

Rarely a day goes by that I do not hear at least one compliment about the performance of our officers and civilian employees. Oftentimes I hear several. Citizens write, e-mail or call to let me know how they appreciate a kindness that an officer has shown or a service that has been rendered. Sometimes it is when there is a serious problem and the responding officer has helped a victim through a crisis. Other times, it has been just an everyday courtesy, something as simple as an elderly person being helped out of a car and through a heavy door rather than being left to struggle with it. The person calling this to my attention often says how unexpected, but sincerely appreciated, these acts of kindness have been, how impressed they are with the respectful treatment.

The compliments go beyond our routine "police" work. Vendors of services and supplies tell me about the good ideas members of this Department have made, enabling them to improve whatever it is they are providing us. Our ideas often help their other customers as well. This makes for better law enforcement throughout the country as well as helps the involved businesses grow, strengthening the economy. Vendors appreciate courteous reception, prompt responses to inquiries, and timely payment of their bills. These straightforward details of good business take some effort, but they serve add to the reputation of our Department.

Both Mayor Mark Mallory and City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr. have written me on numerous occasions acknowledging their appreciation of the quality of our service. The recent successes of major conventions here have gained national attention for the Department and the City, as well as improved local economy.

Whatever we can do to keep the local economy healthy improves the quality of life for us all. It means more people are gainfully employed, spending their time in constructive activities and therefore less likely to get into trouble. The ripple effect is enormous.

That is why I am so proud to draw your attention to some awards that have recently been given. Each year when various organizations announce awards they are presenting, an increasing percentage of them go to the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD). Our outstanding performance is being recognized more and more, as well it should be.

### MADD Award

It was my great honor to represent the CPD in Dallas, along with Colonel Richard H. Collins who was representing the Ohio State Highway Patrol District 8, when the organization Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) recognized a joint venture of our two agencies that had reduced injuries and deaths from drunk driving.

On September 6, Ms. Laura Dean-Mooney, the new national president, presented our two organizations with the President's Award. This prestigious national award shows how the cooperative venture between the two agencies using such techniques (among others) as high visibility, computerized mapping and public education can make a difference. When the program was detailed to the audience and the award presented, the audience rose to give a standing ovation! That ovation wasn't for Colonel Collins or myself, but for the men and women of the two law enforcement agencies it is our great privilege to lead. It was a thrilling moment and I felt such pride in CPD's accomplishment.

### Ohio State Attorney General's Awards

The Ohio State General Attorney's annual awards were recently announced and 14 individuals have been chosen from across the state to be honored for their excellence in the field of law and order. Ten of those being honored are members of the Cincinnati Police Department! There are 88 counties in Ohio; in Hamilton County alone, there are 45 different law enforcement agencies. Statewide, there are over 700 agencies. The competition is fierce and yet CPD received 10 out of 14 awards! This is outstanding recognition and I want to list all of them right here. There will be a more detailed article and photographs in the next issue of *The Blue Wave* but I want to list them now as well. The ten from CPD being honored are:

**Valor:** Officer Jason Horner, Officer Regina Williams, Officer Scott Brians

**Service:** Specialist Linda Day

**Group:** CPD Intelligence Section Specialist Brian Trotta, Specialist John Horner, Officer Ronnie Hugley, Officer Michael Medley and Officer Brett Stratmann

**Training:** Specialist John Rose

I am enormously proud of the men and women of the Cincinnati Police Department. Your dedication to providing the best police service you can to our community, to keeping citizens safe, to making visitors feel welcome, to doing your best to make a *difference* every day, these things combine to make us a great law enforcement agency. I urge you to continue to do all you can to keep our principles and quality of service high, to make sure we stay a Police Department all of Greater Cincinnati can trust, respect and value. It is a great honor for me to lead such an outstanding group of people. Thank you for all you do every day.

# CONVENTIONS WIN ACCOLADES FOR CPD

Conventions bring tens of thousands of people and millions of dollars in business to Greater Cincinnati every year. That is why police officials have worked alongside City officials and the staff of the Convention and Visitors Bureau to attract events here. This summer's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) convention pumped an estimated \$5 million into local economy, money that would have gone elsewhere had Cincinnati not won the convention bid.

Equally important is the excellent reputation the Cincinnati Police Department has earned for welcoming visitors. At the NAACP's final breakfast Mayor Mark Mallory thanked various groups for the work involved including NAACP leaders and different City departments. But when he got to the police, the crowd spontaneously came to its feet with thunderous applause. "[The] crowd just went crazy. It was beautiful," he said.



*A two-part banner adorns the side of the Mobile Command van that is kept at a central location during major events and conferences. For conferences, the lower part of the banner is changed to post the name of the visiting group thereby personalizing the welcome. The van serves as both a command post for officers and an information/ help source for citizens.*

As *The Blue Wave* was being finalized for printing, another major successful convention was completed with even more people in attendance. The National Baptist Convention brought over 20,000 people to Cincinnati and response was just as positive.

Below are a few of the notes sent to Police Chief Thomas H. Streicher, Jr., in the days following the NAACP conference. 🏳️‍🌈

I want to personally thank every one of you ... All week long, out of town guests were continually stopping me and raving about how well they were being treated by city employees.

The praise peaked on Friday morning ... [when] I mentioned the great work of the Cincinnati Police Department and the audience spontaneously jumped to their feet to give the Police a standing ovation. I cannot fully describe to you the pride that I felt at that moment, not only for the Police Department, but for ...our entire city.

We have set a new standard for the way that we welcome guests to our great city. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your dedication to making Cincinnati a world class city. ~Mayor Mark Mallory

Chief, Congratulations on the fantastic job your guys did last week at the NAACP convention. The article in this morning's *Enquirer* was simply fantastic. That kind of thing is worthy of national news attention. Your and your team have brought tremendous pride back to this wonderful city.

~James J. McGraw, Jr., Keating Muething & Klekamp PPL

My name is Mrs. Mary J. Martin and I live in Springdale. Last Thursday night, I attended the NAACP's Centennial Freedom Fund Awards Dinner and I was absolutely impressed by our city's finest! ... I have never encountered more courteous, professional and just plain kind police officers in my life! What a positive turn-around for the city when African Americans (as well as others) can go to an event such as this and leave with such a great impression of our city. I was simply glowing as I listen[ed] to people from all over the country speak so highly of our officers...

Please tell your officers how much we appreciated being treated with such dignity and respect. In fact, they went above and beyond to give our city its great name back while changing their reputation at the same time. To be honest, I have stayed away from events downtown, but that has changed after I witnessed the greatest policing ever!

... Your men and women **deserve to be praised** when they do such awesome work ... Officers, please continue on this path of greatness in your service because the positive attitudes you have exhibited will facilitate positive change. ~Mary J. Martin



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## AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION

When the system recognizes a plate that is registered with a data base, it alerts the officer that the car or someone associated with it is wanted. The system brings up a photo of the car so the officer will know what to look for and sounds an audible alarm. The data is color coded and lists felonies, misdemeanors, and warrants associated with the car, if the registration is not current, and even unpaid parking citations. “Thus far our biggest hit on that issue was a car with 57 parking citations,” grinned Butler.

This information gives the officer an associated danger level. The readout may, for example, state ‘this vehicle is associated with an armed robbery.’ ALPR is improving officer safety, as well as increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

Computer Programmer Analyst Heather Whitton has taken the lead on project implementation. “When you have a project with so many different parts – the in-car side, officers in the field, investigators, equipment, the servers, collaboration with other agencies, the vendor – it is rewarding. I have had a great group of people working together to keep this running,” said Whitton.

Cars outfitted with ALPR are assigned for normal patrol and read every plate they pass. “The equipment doesn’t discriminate, it just reads raw data,” said Butler. “Driving a car is a privilege. The courts have ruled there is no expectation to privacy if you are driving a car on a public roadway. If there is nothing associated with a car that is illegal, all the system does is give an audible ding that a plate was read.”

“This system is amazing. I can’t drive a mile with this unit without getting some hits on it. It has made me wonder how many times in my career I’ve driven right by someone we were looking for and didn’t realize it because you can’t remember every single car description and license plate out there,” said ITS Officer Josh Phillips.

What makes the ALPR system particularly exciting is that “back end” application helps in investigations. All scanned plates go into the data base and if a crime is committed involving a vehicle, data can be called up to see when and where that license plate has been read over a given time period. “Criminals often don’t give their real addresses when they register cars. If we see a car is spending a lot of early morning hours at another locale, it is a good indicator the person sleeps

nearby and CPD can start canvassing the area,” said Butler.

“I’ve talked with ALPR people from all over who work with multiple vendors and have been told that CPD is using the ALPR in the most innovative ways. Some agencies just use it to track stolen cars. We’ve used it successfully to track homicide victim and suspect patterns, theft and burglaries, copper thieves, hit/skips. The PIPS staff, who has worked so hard with us, has said we are using it to the fullest potential, going beyond even their expectations,” said Whitton.

Oftentimes witnesses do not see or cannot remember an entire plate number.

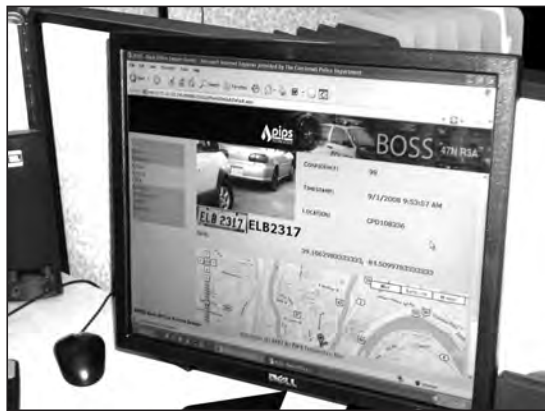
“A witness may say the plate had a 387 on it, and the car was red with a damaged front fender. We’ll do a wild card scan of all cars the ALPR has with those numbers anywhere in them, check for ones that are red and if we are lucky, the photo may have picked up the front fender and we can go after it,” Butler continued. Even if the front fender is not the view showing, ALPR has eliminated a lot of cars and identified a handful worth pursuing further.

Butler has shown the equipment to the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Department, which purchased two ALPRs, and Green Township, which has one. The information gathered from these two other jurisdictions of what vehicles have been spotted and

where, is being hosted in CPD’s data base. Several other local agencies are looking into ALPRs.

Over \$1 million has been dedicated to expanding the ALPR technology through the Urban Area Strategic Initiative. This is Homeland Security money. With about 150 agencies in the region, the 40 units \$1 million could purchase would not distribute well. A better option is a regional expansion using expressways. By monitoring the points of entry into the region and then scattering units through the area, better knowledge of criminal movements can be obtained.

“Say there is an Amber Alert from Florida,” said Butler. “If that car goes by our ALPR mounted camera on the I-75 Kenton County line, we’d get the alert. We’d deploy officers and have them waiting up ahead. This option would only be looking at the high end of crime: the terrorist watch list, suspects associated with murders, Amber Alerts and those kinds of crimes.



*Using an officer's car for demonstration, the computer screen shows both the photo made by the ALPR system and a map pinpointing where it was shot. If the car had been scanned multiple times, all scans in a designated time period would show.*

(continued next page)

"Eventually the word will get out to criminals: don't come to Cincinnati, because we'll catch you."

"The ALPR enhances officer safety, provides a great intelligence resource, helps in solving crimes and most importantly, is in the hands of the officers in the field 24/7/365. It's not just helping us solve crime in Cincinnati, it helps all of GREATER Cincinnati," said Lieutenant Colonel Cindy Combs. 🍷



Three camera units are mounted on the roof of each ALPR equipped car.

## GRUENKE & UNGER EARN ELITE CERTIFICATION

The Law Enforcement & Emergency Services Video Association (LEVA) has certified Sergeant Rudy Gruenke and Police Specialist Ralph Unger as Forensic Video Analysts. Only 17 people worldwide have attained this certification. The process required more than 300 hours of classroom training, exams at basic, intermediate and advanced levels, and a practical video field presentation in front of the LEVA certification committee.

Gruenke also received the honor of being asked to become a member of the LEVA certification committee. Both men are assigned to the Criminalistics Unit. Their expertise benefits law enforcement throughout the entire Midwest because the International Association of Chiefs of Police selected the Cincinnati Police Department to house its regional forensic video laboratory. 🍷

## EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGING FOR SPEECH/HEARING IMPAIRED

As part of its mission to improve the quality of life for area citizens, the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) has implemented the use of a Blackberry text messaging system as a means for speech or hearing impaired or deaf persons to communicate emergencies to 911.

A designated telephone number has been established for people with such disabilities so they may text messages requesting emergency police, fire or medical help. One of the 911 operators on duty each shift is responsible for monitoring the Communication Section's designated Blackberry 7290 unit to receive these messages. This operator will text back to the citizen requesting any additional information needed and providing appropriate directions to follow until the emergency help arrives. The operator will also enter the information into the system and dispatch the correct emergency personnel to handle the situation.

"The only limitation we have is that this service is within the city limits. If the person is elsewhere in Hamilton County and texts in, they get the City of Cincinnati. However, we would take the information and forward it to the Hamilton County dispatch or the appropriate city, for example, Norwood," said Sergeant Troy Bastin.

The 911 system is not set up to receive text messages directly. The special number must be used for texting. To prevent the number from being misused by the community at large for texting, the number is not being released to the general public. Only citizens who are speech or hearing impaired or deaf are being given the special number.

Melissa Shaffer, who is an advocate and education specialist of the Hearing, Speech, and Deaf Center of Greater Cincinnati, is serving as a liaison between the CPD and



911 Operator Michael Mineer holds the Blackberry 7290 unit which receives the emergency text messages. He then enters the data into the system as he would with a normal 911 call sending appropriate response vehicles. He can also text back to the person requesting help for additional information or to give directions. The emergency texting option is only for people who are speech or hearing impaired or deaf.

community residents with these disabilities. She will provide the emergency text number to people who are verified as having these disabilities, as well as explain to them the type of information needed to respond quickly to an emergency. Shaffer can be contacted at 513-221-0527, extension 170, Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. She may also be contacted by video phone number 513-221-3300 during these same hours.

"We are always looking for innovative ways to improve our service to the community and with some folks there are special challenges. Challenges inspire us to think creatively to reach a solution. In the case of text messaging, for these [impaired] people, it can be a life saving solution," said Lieutenant Colonel Cindy Combs. 🍷

Photos by GCPHS Secretary Phil Lind

## SECOND POLICE WOMEN REUNION

*Lieutenant Colonel Cindy Combs presents a citation recognizing her as one of CPD's first female officers to retired Policewoman Specialist Ruth Weller. Looking on is retired Policewoman Specialist Pat Whalen-Herron.*



The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society (GCPHS) paid honor on June 21 to four women who were pioneers in local police work as part of the Second Police Women Reunion. The first reunion was held in 2006 at a private home; this year the event was held at the GCPHS Museum adjacent to the Police Credit Union.

In 1945 the Cincinnati Police Department's (CPD) 15th Police Academy class admitted its first four women, graduating them the following April. Two stayed in the Department until they retired: Elizabeth Degenhardt Pack (25 years) and Ruth Weller (29 years). Both spent their entire careers in Youth Services, although they also did undercover work nabbing blackmailers, pickpockets, fortune tellers, and merchants violating the old Ohio blue laws. They earned a reputation for being meticulous in their casework and doing thorough investigations. Weller,

who lives in College Hill, was presented a citation for her work by Lieutenant Colonel Cindy Combs. Pack's citation was presented posthumously; she passed away at her Arizona home this past spring.

Retired Policewoman Specialist Pat Whalen-Herron served from 1958 to 1966 and was the first policewoman to be transferred from Youth Aid to another assignment, in her case, the Community Relations Bureau. Herron was named for her grandfather, Officer Patrick Whalen, who was the last patrol-wagon driver with horses and the first motorized wagon driver. This legacy contributed to her interest in preserving the history of Cincinnati policing. In 1968 at a meeting of the Fraternal Order of Police she made a motion to establish a police museum which was seconded by (now retired) Officer John Bullock. Although it took over 30 years for this dream to become a reality, the museum has



*Honored for their contributions to local policing by female officers were three well respected retirees: Captain Phyllis Caskey (standing), Policewoman Specialist Ruth Weller (seated left) and Policewoman Specialist Pat Whalen-Herron.*



*From the left are Fraternal Order of Police President Kathy Harrell, Sergeant Louise Shields, Lieutenant Colonel Cindy Combs and Officer Sharon Baglien at the Second Police Women Reunion.*



become an important repository of historic memorabilia. She was presented with a citation of appreciation by Combs.

Retired Captain Phyllis Caskey joined the CPD as a part-time file clerk in 1966. In 1968 after graduating from the Academy, she became a policewoman in Youth Aid. In 1981 she became the first woman to earn the rank of sergeant. Five years later she became the first woman to achieve the rank of lieutenant and in 1991 she was promoted to captain, also the first woman to earn that rank. She retired from the CPD in 2002 with the respect of those who had served with her and under her command.

"This was a wonderful event for all, women and men, who attended and it was truly a treat to meet these pioneers. Events such as this at the museum provide a great opportunity for different generations of cops to meet and talk. The accomplishments of the four women honored clearly shows that the museum is a place to learn about what our mothers and grandmothers, as well as our fathers and grandfathers, did during their policing careers," said Lieutenant Alan March, president of the GCPHS board. 🇺🇸



*From the left are Joan Crawford (who was a sworn officer from 1961 to 1976), Sergeant Thomas Waller and Jane Dunigan (who served 1966 to 1969).*

## CANINE SQUAD BIG WINNERS IN REGION 5

Four members of the Department's Canine Squad competed in the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) Regional Field Trials in West Chester this summer and all four walked away as winners. One canine team, Officer Tim Pappas and Laser, garnered top honors as "First Place Overall Champion." In addition, the Cincinnati Police Department Canine Squad was named "First Place Overall Team Champions."

What made CPD's performance particularly impressive is that Laser was the only veteran. The other three dogs were competing for the first time.

The judging includes one day centering on obedience and agility, another day on article and suspect search, and a third day on aggression and apprehension.

For some of the judging segments, the order of tasks is varied so the dog cannot follow a set routine. For example, in the part of the agility trials that deals with hurdles, there are six different hurdles which equate to real life situations (chain link fence, window frame, picket fence, etc.) and the handlers draw to find out which four their respective dogs will be tested on and in what order the hurdles will be run.

CPD requires 16 hours of regular training each month for each of its canine teams. "But if you want to go to competition, it takes a lot of additional training. Beginning about two months before a competition, we come out on our own time, three days a week, for two or three hours at a time. We've been doing this for years. Everything we are doing is what we'd do during regular training, but it enhances the dog's performance. It also means a better dog, a better canine team, on the street serving the citizens," said Pappas. 🇺🇸



*Front row is Tony White with Tundra, whose nickname is Recon, and Jenny Ernst with Bak. Back row is Jason Ader with Matej and Tim Pappas with Laser.*

The awards were:

**Cincinnati Police, First Place, Overall Team Champions**  
**Officer Tim Pappas and Laser, First Place, Overall Champion**  
**Officer Anthony White and Tundra, Third Place, Overall Champion**  
**Officer Jenny Ernst and Bak, Fifth Place, Overall and Novice Champion**  
**Officer Jason Ader and Matej, Twentieth Place, Overall Champion**

*Photos by Lieutenant Mark Briede and Patsy Trubow*

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Cincinnati celebrated National Night Out on August 5, one of thousands of communities across the U.S. and Canada taking part in the annual event. Begun in 1984 as a way to raise public awareness and participation in local anti-crime efforts, it has become a celebration of both area safety programs and crime prevention successes.

Each of CPD's five districts had its own mix of special activities. There were demonstrations and displays of current police technology and tactics, as well as entertainment. Canine teams put their dogs through their paces, SWAT vehicles, motorcycles, and other special equipment were on display, and there were games and other special activities for children. Area restaurants and other businesses provided free food and beverages. 🍷



*Police Mount Jackson gets some friendly pats from this young boy while Sergeant Frank Beavers looks on. The members of the Department's Mounted Unit always draw a crowd at public events.*



*The popular rock band, "Most Wanted," played in Armleder Park.*



*Four-year-old Nathan Schneider has his arm wet down in preparation for getting a washable tattoo of the CPD emblem applied by Officer Kathy Thompson of the Neighborhood Projects Unit.*



*Holding down the fort at the Crime Stoppers booth are Police Officer Tammy Skelly and Sergeant William Hahn with Sergeant Richard Sulfstead taking a break from his bike patrol to check things out.*



# BRINGING HOME THE OLYMPIC GOLD

While it would be stretching things to say Specialist Stephanie Bradford and Specialist Cecelia Charron are in the same class as Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt, the fact is these two District 5 officers routinely do the Cincinnati Police Department proud in their respective performances at the various Police and Fire Olympic events held every year.

Bradford is an accomplished swimmer who regularly “brings home the gold” when she competes. Charron says “You should see her in the water. Whoosh.....she’s gone! She really is good.”

In the Ohio Police and Fire Olympics games held in Columbus this past June, Bradford won gold medals and set organizational records in the 50-meter freestyle (28.41 seconds), the 50-meter backstroke (36.81 seconds), the 50-meter butterfly (30.03 seconds), the 100-meter freestyle (1.06 minutes) and the 100-meter individual medley (1.16 minutes). The individual medley has one lap each for each stroke. Her favorite event is the butterfly saying “I’ve got good upper body strength.”

At the International Police and Fire Olympics meet held in Orlando in August, Bradford won golds and set organizational records for the 50-meter freestyle (28.55 seconds), the 50 meter butterfly (30.4 seconds) and the 100-meter individual medley (1.14 minutes).

Bradford has swum competitively since her school-days, although she took a six-year break when starting her family. “Then I started back to get into exercising again and love it. My friends at work give me lots of support and motivation – [it’s] nice to have. Always fun to beat the boys in competition, too!” she says with a grin.

While Charron is quick to qualify that her athletic feats are not the same caliber of her co-worker’s, she is still an accomplished athlete. She began competing in track at Newport Central Catholic High and later was a cross country runner for Northern Kentucky University. She has since added arm wrestling to her list of skills and has won gold medals in that event, too. “I learned to grab high on the thumb. It gives you control of your opponent’s wrist.” At the recent International meet in Orlando she beat out competitors from Russia and Kazakhstan.

In track, Charron also won gold medals in Orlando in the 800-meter run and three different relay events: the 1600-meter relay, 400-meter relay and sprint medley relay, joining up with three women from Florida law enforcement agencies to form a ‘multi-jurisdictional’ team. Her favorite event, however, is the 800-meter run, an individual event. “You have to pace yourself, but it doesn’t go on forever. It is a lot of fun and I just like it!” 🏆



*The pride of District 5, Specialist Cecelia Charron (left) and Specialist Stephanie Bradford display some (not all!) of the medals they have won at various Police and Fire Olympic competitions.*



*2008 Torch Run Lieutenant Doug Ventre (glancing over his shoulder) and Officer Evan “Ditto” Evans have a crowd of recruits close on their heels. Only two short days after the 102nd Recruit Class began their training, class members took part in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Following a brief ceremony at the Police Memorial, the Recruit Class joined a couple of hundred officers, civilian employees, retirees, family members, friends, and community citizens for a portion of the run. The proceeds from the Torch Run are used to support expenses such as lodging and meals for Special Olympics participants. Photo by Michelle Faulkner.*



## TRANSITIONS

### Retirements

The following people retired between April 1, and August 31, 2008. Thanks go to each one for dedicated service to the community and the Department as well as our best wishes for many happy retirement years!

#### 33 years

- Specialist Leon Locke, Criminal Investigation Section

#### 29 years

- Sergeant Charline Fielden, District 2 (9 years non-sworn as a police dispatcher, 20 years sworn)

#### 28 years

- Captain Ken Jones, District 1
- Sergeant Sylvia Morales, District 2
- Specialist Bernard Boddie, District 4

#### 27 years

- Officer Terry C. Smith, District 2

#### Correction

The Summer issue of *The Blue Wave* incorrectly listed Specialist Gregory Kittel as retiring after six years of service. Specialist Kittel retired after more than 12 years of service to the CPD. We apologize for the computation error and thank him again for his service.

### Promotions

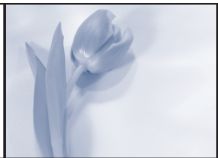
The following promotions took place between June 1 and August 31, 2008. Congratulations to all and best wishes for success in their new positions!

- Clerk-Typist 2 Janette E. Eddens to Clerk 3
- Clerk-Typist 2 Barbara A. Corbett to Clerk-Typist 3
- Clerk-Typist 2 Donna M. Davis to Clerk-Typist 3
- Clerk-Typist 1 Yvonne Niles to Clerk-Typist 2

### New Hires/Transfers

Welcome to the following individuals who have recently joined the Department. We wish each of them success in their work.

- Jason R. Elder, Crime Analyst, Information Technology Management Section
- Jamie L. Litchfield, Clerk-Typist 1, Records Section
- Marie Myatt, Clerk-Typist 1, Records Section
- Donna L. Souliere, Clerk-Typist 1, Records Section
- Amy J. Stephens, Clerk-Typist 1, Records Section



## IN MEMORIAM

Notification was received in the CPD Personnel Section that the following retired officers had passed away between May 1 and August 31 of this year. We are grateful for both their service to the community and their friendship with us. Our condolences are extended to their families.

*Officer Willie Harris, Jr.*, of Cincinnati, died May 13, 2008, at age 49, served from 1989-2002

*Specialist Novella D. Noble*, of Columbus, died June 23, 2008, at age 91, served from 1947-1973

*Lieutenant Norman Luttrell*, of Cincinnati, died July 6, 2008, at age 77, served from 1955-1986, then as a non-sworn employee from 1986-1987

*Officer Joseph P. Stoeckel*, of Cincinnati, died July 10, 2008, at age 66, served from 1964-1991

*Officer Arthur C. Manigan*, of Cincinnati, died July 13, 2008, at age 69, served from 1964-1991

*Clerk II Dwaymon D. Warren*, of Cincinnati, died July 14, 2008, at age 45, served from 2007-2008

*Sergeant William P. Berry*, of Cincinnati, died July 16, 2008, at age 80, served from 1953-1980

*Officer Raymond E. Koehler*, of Cincinnati, died August 14, 2008, at age 89, served from 1946-1972

*Officer Walter G. Scott*, of Cincinnati, died August 21, 2008, at age 63, served from 1965-1991

### Novella Noble Dies

Novella Noble, one of the first two African-American women hired as Policewomen by the Cincinnati Police Department in 1947, died on June 23. Her counterpart, Lillian Grigsby, passed away this past February.

Assigned to work in Youth Aid, Noble eventually was promoted to the "missing persons" phase of that Bureau. Noble's service record has numerous entries commending the excellence of her work. She served CPD for nearly 26 years. Noble was a pioneer in policing for African-American women and enjoyed the respect of her colleagues. She was 91-years-old at her death.

**Note:** Because of a difference in the handling of pensions, the CPD is not notified of the deaths of retired civilian personnel. If you know of a CPD civilian retiree who has died and would like to see that person listed in *The Blue Wave*, please notify Sergeant Louise Shields in the Personnel Section, 513.352.4561.

EVER WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CO-WORKERS AFTER THEY RETIRED FROM THE CPD? THIS COLUMN GIVES BRIEF PROFILE UPDATES ON A FEW RETIREES EACH ISSUE.

## WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE THEY NOW?

### POLICE DISPATCHER MARY CRUMRINE

*Retired 1992, 17 years*

Mary Crumrine enjoys the status of being the first civilian to retire from a Communications position and she did so to babysit one of her granddaughters. After the child started school, Mary continued to provide some childcare, but began some traveling. Her trips were with various of her children who invited her on their vacations. She has gone several times to Florida, California, and South Carolina, and also visited Puerto Rico, Australia, Mexico, and Hawaii. The widow of Sergeant George Crumrine, Mary has five children and 13 grandchildren (ranging in age from 10 to 34). Most are in the general area, with her eldest grandson a Navy pilot stationed in Pensacola. She still lives in the Westwood home where she and George raised their family.

### OFFICER MIKE HILLGROVE

*Retired 1993, 24 years*

After he left CPD Mike Hillgrove started a specialty advertising company, "It's About You," which sells imprinted giveaway items for businesses. He is still running the company from Bonita Springs, Florida, where he and Sara, his wife, moved in 2002 after many years of vacationing in the area. When not working, he enjoys golf, fishing and boating. They like to take their boat about five to ten miles into the Gulf of Mexico to fish. "Part of the fun of going out that far is you never know what will turn up!" His daily routine includes either a gym workout or a five-mile walk. Mike has two sons from a previous marriage, both living in Cincinnati, and four grandchildren. "Policing was a great career. The time went fast!"



### POLICE MOUNT LEX

*Retired 1990, 3 years*

Lex has done twice as good a job of kicking up his heels in retirement as most retirees do. But then, he has *four* heels to kick. When the CPD reactivated a Mounted Unit, Lex was one of the first three horses acquired and was ridden by Officer Cleon Wingard who recalls Lex as "the best police mount I ever worked with, a very personable horse." A former sulky racer, Lex began having arthritis problems related to walking on pavement, so when Wingard retired, Lex also retired and was returned to the man who had donated him. A short time later he was sold to Angie Wright. Now a dispatcher in Communications, Angie has made Lex's golden years as good as a horse could want. He is pastured on a historic horse farm in Union, KY, along with six other horses. A lifelong "bachelor," Lex enjoys hanging out with his girl friend, Christy, a comely Thoroughbred, and bumming all the carrots he can from Angie.

### ASSISTANT CHIEF DALE MENKHAUS

*Retired 1995, 32 years*

Joining the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department upon retirement from CPD, Dale Menkhaus started a new computer crime unit called the Regional Electronics Computer Investigation and ran that operation for three years. Since then he has served as commander of the Court Services Division. "At the Sheriff's Department, I have continued to interact regularly with people throughout Hamilton County that I interacted with before and that's very comfortable." Karen, his wife, works for Huff Realty and the couple lives in Delhi. Saying he is "still having a good time" with work, there are no immediate plans to retire, but when that day arrives he and Karen hope to travel more. The couple has six adult children, three living in the area. They also have two grandchildren in Cincinnati.

### SPECIALIST KEN RYAN

*Retired 1985, 31 years*

Five years before retiring, Ken Ryan and his son opened Ryan's All Glass together and Ken worked there three years after leaving CPD. He then dabbled in residential and foreign real estate and spent 10 years working part-time for the U.S. Census Bureau. Fully retired since 2000, he enjoys taking life easy. His wife, Lois, passed away in 2002, but while she was able the couple traveled extensively including to Europe. He plays golf weekly with friends, one of them CPD retiree Wayne Scott. Ken's son has three children and his daughter, who lives in Columbus, has five. He currently has seven great grandchildren, five born this year. "Retirement was a long time coming," he says, "but I appreciate it. The City has been pretty kind to retirees." He lives in Florence, KY.

**Adding Retirees to Newsletter Mailing List** – Because our mailing list of CPD retirees is incomplete, your help is requested. If you know of a CPD retiree, whether from a sworn or non-sworn position, who is not receiving *The Blue Wave*, please ask that person to contact Sergeant Louise Shields in the Personnel Section to be added to the mailing list. She may be called at 513-352-4561, e-mailed at [louise.shields@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:louise.shields@cincinnati-oh.gov) or a letter sent to her at 310 Ezzard Charles Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45210.



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CPD's Olympic Medalists

Police Women Reunion

CPD Service During Convention Wins Friends

## WALL MURALS PORTRAY CPD HISTORY

A joint venture between the Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society and ArtWorks 2008 MuralWorks has resulted in two murals celebrating local policing being painted on the side and front of the Police Museum located on the corner of West Eighth Street and Freeman Avenue.

ArtWorks is a non-profit organization that employs students and budding artists to beautify area communities through public art. Its MuralWorks projects are one way of accomplishing this by using formerly plain building walls as canvases.

In the case of the Police Museum, 88 teenage apprentices and 23 professional artists have created a large mural titled "On the Shoulders of Giants." The painting combines images of area police from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries and is on the sidewall of the



*The mural on the side of the Police Museum building shows area police from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. A smaller mural is on the front of the building.*

museum (at right angle to Freeman Avenue and easily viewed from the Museum's parking area). Near the entrance a smaller mural shows "Handsome," CPD's first unofficial police canine, riding in a car with Police Chief Paul Milliken circa 1906.

The murals were officially dedicated on September 9 and help beautify the area, as well as publicize the Museum.



*The Blue Wave* is a quarterly publication issued by the Cincinnati Police Department for its officers, civilian employees, retirees and their respective families.

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### "Story Ideas?"

If you have a good story idea for *The Blue Wave*, you may contact the editor, Patsy Trubow, directly at 859-746-0100 or e-mail her at [Trubow@HollisterTrubow.com](mailto:Trubow@HollisterTrubow.com).